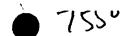
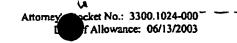
.MS/EMF/ps 09/03/03





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

David L. Brock, Woojin Lee, Gary S. Rogers, Barry D. Weitzner

and Robert W. Cunningham

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10/010,150

Group:

3732

Filed:

November 16, 2001

Examiner:

Philogene, Pedro

Confirmation No.: 9975

For:

FLEXIBLE INSTRUMENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or is being facsimila-transmitted to the United States Patent

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REPLY TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Commissioner of Patents Attn: Examiner Derek Rich

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Reply is being filed in response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 11, 2003.

Please replace the Docket Numbers on Page 2 of the specification with the corresponding U.S. Application Serial Numbers as follows:

08491.7013:

Application Serial No.: 10/014,145

08491.7014:

Application Serial No.: 10/012,845

08491.7015:

Application Serial No.: 10/008,964

08491.7016:

Application Serial No.: 10/013,046

Application Serial No.: 10/011,450 08491.7017: Application Serial No.: 10/008,457 08491.7018: Application Serial No.: 10/008,871 08491.7019: 08491.0006: Application Serial No.: 10/023,024 Application Serial No.: 10/011,371 08491.0007: Application Serial No.: 10/011,449 08491.0008: Application Serial No.: 10/010,150 08491.0009: 08491.0010: Application Serial No.: 10/022,038 08491.0011: Application Serial No.: 10/012,586

In lieu of paying the Issue Fee, the Applicant filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 on August 14, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

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Concord, MA 01742-9133

Dated: 9/3/03

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NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Notice of Allowance Mailed

This application has been accorded an Allowance Date and is being prepared for issuance. The application, however, is incomplete for the reasons below.

Applicant is given 30 days from the mail date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. A failure to reply will result in the application being ABANDONED. This period for reply is NOT extendable under 37 CFR 1.136 (a) or (b).

Page 2 of the Spec. has several docket #'s that have to be replaced with the corresponding U.S. serial #'s.

APPLICANT MUST SUPPLY MISSING INFORMATION WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE MAIL DATE OF THIS NOTICE.

A copy of this notice <u>MUST</u> be returned with the reply. Please address response to "Rori Burch 2231 CRYSTAL DRIVE SUITE 918 ARLINGTON, VA 22202"

Name: Derek Rich Phone 703-305-8338 Fax 703-308-6642 AUG 1 4 2003

HAMILTON, BROOK
SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.